

DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE FOR GOVERNOR.  
HON. JOHN W. ELLIS,  
OF ROWAN COUNTY.

See supplement this week. We give Gov. Ellis' speech in full, with other important and interesting matter. The regular issue of the Journal has also received our earnest attention; we trust both will be found worthy that of our patrons. Circulate the documents.

## Ad Valorem.—Our Constitution and Revenue System.

Prior to the meeting of either the Democratic or Opposition State Conventions, we paid some attention to the agitation then existing in certain quarters, looking to an alteration in the Constitution of the State as one of the steps towards an important change in the basis upon which our revenue is raised. Our position with regard to this matter is not in any respect different from what it had previously been; we are the recipients of no new inspiration—we are converts to no new-fangled ideas of mere availability. We simply resume the discussion of this question at the point where we left it off a few weeks since. We may regret that some of those who cordially agreed with us in regarding this movement as dangerous and impolitic during the last session of the Legislature, have since, at the mere beck of party leaders, and in the vain hope of office, been content to eat their own words and falsify their own votes as recorded on the Journals of that Legislature. We may look with amazement upon the spectacle of a leading and central Opposition party organ at the seat of Government performing a political summer set worthy of the most accomplished acrobat, but we must regard with more than amazement the spectacle of a gubernatorial candidate of the same party, entering upon the coming canvass with such a record as must create a suspicion of the sincerity of his present professions, or grave doubts of his stability and trustworthiness in any political position he may assume, or any opinion he may express.

With these gyrations and tergiversations, however, we have now little to do, and our present object in calling attention to them is simply that our readers may judge of the character of the movement by which this exciting topic was introduced, at this time, and none other, into the arena of political discussion in our State—was introduced precisely at the time, when, if ever, anything calculated to disturb the existing harmony between classes and sections in North Carolina ought to have been sedulously avoided. For we contend that the time was, of all others, the most singularly inopportune. It was as though a nation threatened with foreign invasion should, instead of postponing her internal disputes and concentrating her forces, voluntarily choose to weaken herself with intestine broils. It is strange too, that this dangerous agitation should have been made a party issue by a class of politicians who are fond of talking of conservatism. To such conservatism the Democratic party lays no claims. As little does that party desire to evince its sincerity and consistency by sending forth, as the apostle of any such new revelation, a gentleman whose eyes were closed to its beauties until enabled to discern them by the strong light cast upon them by the resolutions of the opposition Convention, to say nothing of his own nomination for the office of Governor.

It might be suggested, and we must confess the suggestion would neither be very uncharitable nor devoid of a strong appearance of reason, that the action of the opposition leaders had its motive in the desire to take advantage of some peculiar circumstances apparently affecting the unity of the Democratic party at the centre. It might be thought, and it is thought, that but for the hope held out of slipping into office through the help of Democratic difficulties upon this question of a change of the constitutional basis of taxation, the opposition leaders would not have had their eyes opened to the beauties of *ad valorem* now or hereafter. We trust that Democrats and others will understand this matter and not fall blind dupes into this most transparent snare.

An adroit lawyer will seldom be found without some plausible escape from such a dilemma as that in which Mr. Pool is placed, but there is a secret consciousness, both on the part of the speaker and of his auditors, that must render such special pleading as he must use, an up-hill business. With Governor Ellis the case is different. He will have no new doctrines to advance—he will speak his own views—views deliberately entertained and not suddenly—almost miraculously—revealed by the magic of a nomination.

It may be as well, before going farther into the consideration of this matter that we should devote a brief space to an examination and statement of the position of the Democratic party upon this subject of taxation. It is a misapprehension or misrepresentation of that position to say that the Democratic party proposes to apply the system of a uniform *ad valorem* to every class of persons or property save and except negroes.—The object of the Democratic party is to equalize, as far as may be, the *burdens* of taxation; and all experience has shown that no unbending rule will ever effect that object.

Necessaries are, under no wise government, taxed as luxuries; neither does any prudent government fail to recognize the wisdom of that policy which, in adjusting taxation, avoids, as far as possible, anything calculated to clog the productive energies of the State, or arrest the development of its resources. We ask any person to go upon the line of any of our roads in course of construction and see for himself what labor is employed in that construction—what labor is loudly demanded for our development. We ask any man to take a walk along our wharves and see the products arriving there for exportation, and then enquire where these products came from, and by what labor they were mainly made—the naval stores, the cotton, the rice, the peanuts, the timber and lumber, etc., which go to make up the six millions or more of exports from Wilmington, and the other millions from Newbern and the North Counties. He will find that slave labor is not merely capital, but a great, active, productive element, sending produce to our marts, finding cargoes for our shipping, giving employment to our merchants and vitality to our business communities.

In illustration of this we quote from our annual table, the following statement of the exports of the principal articles shipped from the port of Wilmington during the year ending Dec. 31st, 1859. We do not say that these articles are exclusively slave products, but every person who knows anything about the matter, knows to how great an extent they are so:—

Articles.	Coastwise.	Foreign.
Spirits Turpentine, bbls.	137,740	9,471
Crude do.	66,797	12,717
Rosin do.	355,636	22,881
Tar, do.	40,253	855
Pitch, do.	7,174	1,063
Flour, do.	3,125	32
Timber, P. P. feet.	101,163	33,500
Lumber, do.	6,074,704	13,888,806
Shingles, do.	1,574	106
Staves, do.	108,656	2,531,570
Cotton, bales.	100	100
Pea Nuts, bushels.	18,962	100
Cotton, bales.	1,574	106
Do. sheeling, bales.	1,574	106
Do. Yarn, do.	1,574	106
Do. Waste, do.	1,574	106
Do. Warp, do.	1,574	106
Newspaper, bundles.	1,251	100
Wool, bales.	1,574	106
Rice, clean, casks.	258	100
Do. rough, bushels.	130,502	100
Wheat, bushels.	54,453	100

Let our enquiring friend go a little farther and he will find that the drafts drawn against the shipments of these products form that exchange which enables us to sustain our currency and pay for the goods we get from abroad. This is the case also at points far west. Enquire at the bank of Charlotte, or Wadesboro', or Yanceyville. And these productions already referred to are

mostly the results of a kind of labor in which white men do not willingly engage. They furnish the means with which to purchase the products of skilled labor, and from a pretty general knowledge of the different sections of the State we can truly say that to the industrious and enterprising white man without capital, the chances of remunerative employment, and of eventually acquiring property, are decidedly better in the largely slaveholding sections than in the comparatively non-slaveholding.

We have thus shown that slave labor is not to be regarded merely as capital, but also as a great labor-power required for development and production—that it is intimately connected with our commerce, with our currency and with our credit, and that it furnishes the means wherewith to purchase the products of the skilled labor of the ingenious white man. Surely, in adjusting taxation, true policy, an enlightened regard for the interests of the State, would seem to indicate that this labor-power should rather be regarded as industry than as mere capital—that nothing should be done to drive it away; that, paying, as it now does, a poll tax four and a half times higher than any other labor, might be regarded as a sufficient discrimination to mark its compound character of property as well as personal service. It should also be borne in mind that the black poll is subject to a poor tax—a school tax—a tax for the deaf and dumb and insane asylums, from none of which taxes can any benefit be derived by the negro or his owner.

The tendency of this labor is to leave this State as well as Virginia for a more profitable field of operations farther to the South and South-West. This single class of emigration flourishes as no contemptible item in the passenger receipts of our Railroads.

Recently, the attention of our farmers has been turned in the direction of cotton—a disposition has been shown to remain at home—reclaim our own swamps, renew our lands exhausted by improper tillage—retain our population and political power, and increase our wealth and comfort. Is this the time which sound policy would point out as the most fitting one to change the very fundamental law of the State in order to withdraw the protection, or rather, the constitutional guarantee against imposition upon that class of labor so necessary for the accomplishment of the objects above referred to—objects the attainment of which every one truly devoted to the interests of the State must so earnestly desire.

But it is contended that all property should pay an equal percentage upon its value for the protection it receives from the State. Waiving, for the present, all arguments founded upon Constitutional compromise, pledged faith and the sanctity of contracts, we must see that even then this argument is far from meeting the case or sustaining the positions of the advocates of a change in the Constitution. Its apparent equity has little extent and less force. Of the \$633,432 97, constituting the "Aggregate Amount of State Taxes derived from the various Subjects of Taxation in the State," during the fiscal year ending 30th September 1859, very many kinds that fully \$500,000 or more, was required to be raised for other purposes than those of protection to persons or property—that fully that sum was raised for the purpose of paying interest upon the State debt incurred for the construction of works of Internal Improvement in North Carolina. Now these works were constructed with the view of affording to different sections of the State avenues to market—means of disposing of their products and receiving goods, wares, and merchandise in return. In many cases hands have been pretty largely enhanced in value by the facilities afforded by railroads, but a little reflection will show that the effects of the development of resources by these improvements have been little, if at all, felt in the enhancement of the value of negro property, and this for an obvious reason:—The high price of negro property depends upon causes outside of the State, and with which movements here have little to do. Negroes have gone up totally independent of the causes that might operate to raise the price of real estate, for in fact so far from any demand in North Carolina, occasioned by railroads, affecting the price of negroes within her borders, that price has depended upon and waited for the demand elsewhere, and indeed in no year do we recollect when negroes have not been carried South on account of the higher money value there attached to them. Really if negroes are to be regarded simply as capital and not at all as persons, it would be difficult to see what benefit they, as property, could derive from the expenditures made for the benefit of real estate, since a higher market was open out of the State totally independent of local causes at home. Not so with land—no man could carry that off. Common sense shows that property so easily moved as negroes does not depend upon local causes or local improvements, as immovable real estate must. Even admitting the argument founded upon equality of protection, it goes only one-sixth of the way, since in fact only about one-sixth of our present taxes are rendered necessary to meet the demands of protection, and in the other five-sixths, the amount raised for local development, negro property, simply as property, must from its nature, have little or no concern, being nearly if not altogether beyond and above the operation of such development.

We have so far regarded this matter merely as a question of political economy or pecuniary interest to the State. It has a moral as well as a political aspect.—It is a matter not alone of constitutional compromise, but even apart from that there are considerations of natural right involving the sanctity of contracts and the mutuality of obligations. It would have looked more like fair dealing had this change in the Constitution been broached before our present State debt had been paid, or not broached until after it had been paid. Had the straightforward course been pursued at the proper time, the sections and interests now sought to be saddled with a proportion of the public debt for which they never bargained, might, perhaps have been more cautious, and projects that could not have succeeded without the aid of the representatives of the sections in question might and most probably would have remained in abeyance. It is a noticeable fact that the State is already for pretty much all the debt her people will sanction for years, and indeed every penny of the existing or prospective obligations of the State had been incurred before the agitation was started for shifting a portion of one party's responsibilities for such debts and obligations on to the shoulders of others, contrary to the existing constitutional provision known to all at the time of contracting the debt, and understood and recognized by all as a part of the contract or mutual guarantee.

Without referring at all to the proceedings in the Convention of 1835 which adopted the present Constitution of the State, and submitted it to the people for ratification, the antecedents of that Convention—the understanding arrived at prior to its calling, and without which it could not have been called, satisfactorily establish the fact that that very Convention itself was a compromise between those sections of the State largely interested in slave labor and those less largely so interested. If this fact be disputed, which we feel assured it will be by no intelligent and candid person, the documentary evidence can be produced establishing it beyond the reach of controversy or denial.

This compromise being made—understood—recognized—known by all, how is it that the party that, from the first glimmer in claiming for itself the title of the Internal Improvement party of North Carolina, and prided itself upon its liberality in voting to create debts for public improvements, never objected to the terms of that compromise—never found out, before going into debt, that it was their duty to "recommend a Convention of the people of the State to be called on the federal basis as early as practicable, for the purpose of so modifying the Constitution that every species of property may be taxed

according to its value, with power to discriminate only in favor of the native products of our State and the industrial pursuits of her citizens," as the Opposition Convention suddenly found out on the 22nd day of February, after our present large debt had been contracted? If debts were to be contracted, the known conditions of their payment, if to be altered at all, ought to have been altered before they had been contracted. To alter them afterwards is bad faith—it, in reality, impairs the obligation of contracts, and destroys faith between man and man. We put the case to our fellow-citizens of the West—the extreme West, if you please—say the citizens of Buncombe or Macon or Cherokee or Ashe or Wilkes, who may desire State assistance to forward the construction of some work or works in which they are interested. This or that senator or commoner might be willing to vote for granting the required aid, willing to give the vote and influence of his county to the works in question, willing to pledge such county to her quota or proportion of the amount of taxes required; but, after such aid has been given, such quota has been pledged, such debt has been incurred, that proportion is to be changed, an amount never bargained for is to be required, there is at once an end of all confidence—men will no longer vote, since they know not for what they vote, or to what burdens they commit themselves and their constituents. For ourselves, we are willing to be what is called liberal; we are willing to see the great works already begun pushed forward to completion just as soon as the means and credit of the State will admit. We appreciate the wants and respect the wishes of our western fellow-citizens, but we could not go for any appropriations to be made under one understanding, under one constitutional guarantee, if, before the debts created by these appropriations are paid, this constitutional guarantee is to be destroyed. How is it that the party most prominent in urging the State to contract her present debt, never, before doing so, discovered the injustice and inequality of one of the constitutional provisions which entered into the contract and must also enter into the terms of payment and assist in determining the proportion of obligation incurred by the parties contracting the debt? The fact is that that party assented to all these things, believed or affected to believe those things right, of which they now have or affect to have such a holy horror. Cannot any one see through the thing? It is a mere clap-net, a mere effort to get into power, stimulated by a hope called into existence by certain movements at the centre, already referred to. The *ad valorem* thunder, upon which the opposition convention relied, is mere stolen thunder, pilfered for a temporary purpose, and rattled like sheet iron at a thrasher, to make-believe. It will have served its end if it effects the election of Mr. Badger to the Senate, and gives office to certain hungry expectants, even at the cost of disturbing the peace of the State and arraying sections and classes against each other to the mutual detriment of all.

That slave property or labor is somewhat unequally distributed in this State, will be apparent from a few facts, and a consideration of these facts will readily suggest why it was that certain sections of the State possessing the greater number of negroes, together with the smaller number of white persons, were anxious, before going into convention for a readjustment of the balance of power, to obtain such a guarantee as would assure them that the power so to be readjusted should not be made to bear oppressively upon the class of labor on which their property so largely depended. This anxiety long deferred the holding of any Convention for remodeling the Constitution of the State, and admitting the West to that participation in public affairs to which her growing wealth and increasing population no doubt justly entitled her. That guarantee is contained in the provision of the Constitution which fixes the taxable status of slaves as persons, as polls, but makes them subject to a poll-tax which in practice amounts to four and a half times the amount of a similar tax collected from the same free white population, while in the benefits of certain taxes, as that for the poor, school, insane Asylum and Deaf and Dumb Institute, the slave population cannot participate.

Let us look at the distribution of slaves or slave labor. We refer to the census of 1850 from which we find that the following counties to wit: Anson, Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Caswell, Chowan, Craven, Cumberland, Currituck, Duplin, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Granville, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Mecklenburg, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Person, Pitt, Richmond, Robeson, Rockingham, Sampson, Wake, Warren, Washington and Wayne, with a white population of 261,282, contain a slave population of 205,026, leaving to the remaining counties a white population of 319,209, and a slave population of 83,522—that is to say the counties enumerated contain three times as many slaves in proportion to white population as the other counties of the State do. It is evident, then, that this being the manner in which a particular class of labor is distributed, the burden of an increased ratio of taxation upon that labor must fall unequally and unjustly, since such burden would be imposed in the proportion of three to one upon the counties enumerated as compared with others. This unequal distribution of this class of labor also affords on the face of it, the reason for the anxiety of the slaveholding sections to have their labor protected from oppression on the part of sections with interests, comparatively speaking, different and with different bases of labor in certain departments. Neither can it be urged that these largely slaveholding sections do not already pay their full share of taxes into the Treasury of the State: the fact being, that they come within a fraction of paying two-thirds of all the public taxes of the State. We have examined the Comptroller's report carefully—have footed up the figures, and find it to be as we have stated.

This, then, is part of the exhibit—part of the showing presented by an examination of the position of the State viewed with reference to the distribution of a peculiar kind of industry. That industry we find to be as distributed that an attack upon it—an attempt to saddle it with a new and unbargained for proportion of responsibility—must fall with treble force upon some portions of the State from what it will do to others, and will tend to lay fresh burdens, and collect a larger proportion of taxes out of counties that, with not more than half the federal population, already pay within a fraction of two-thirds of the taxes of the State.

With additional taxation would come in due time, as the basis of representation now stands, additional power in the Senate, in which body the comparatively non-slaveholding counties would have but a feeble representation. What follows? What must be apparent to any one as the natural and inevitable consequence of the success of the present agitation for a Convention to revise the Constitution and make the proposed change in the basis of taxation? Why this. A demand for a change in the basis of representation—a substitution of the white basis for the present mixed one resting upon taxation and federal numbers. Then, indeed will the East find herself called upon to pay a largely enhanced proportion of the State taxes at the same time that she will in effect be required to give up all control over the appropriation or expenditure of the sums to which her means have been made so largely to contribute. Then, indeed, will sections now paying a large proportion of the revenues of the State find their industry deprived of constitutional guarantees and themselves of the political power necessary for the assertion and protection of their rights in the Legislature.

The Opposition doctors differ about the meaning of the new Latin-label nostrum from their political dispensary. Speaking of *ad valorem*, the Raleigh Register says—We shall soon have a system of equal and

just taxation upon all kinds of property, and the towns of Wilmington, Newbern and Morehead City offer fine fields for the profitable employment of mercantile capital." The Payetteville Observer plainly takes the ground that *ad valorem* mean taxing negroes, or rather so amending the Constitution as to be enabled to impose heavier taxes on that class of persons or property.—However, if the cry for perfect equality of taxation be anything but a humbug, its application is general, and applies to every species of property, as the Register claims that it does; and it will thus, under the specious pretext of equal taxation, cause the actual burdens of such taxation to fall where they will be felt most unequally and oppressively. The negro owner simply as a capitalist, can be but little affected, for if he hires out his negroes, he will be sure to make the hired man pay the taxes, whatever they may be. In that way the capitalists will not be the man to suffer. He can take them out of the State and sell them higher in Mississippi or Alabama; but the true burden will fall upon the farmer who desires to use such labor in the improvement and cultivation of the soil, or the contractor who hires such force to build our railroads, or the mechanic, or other man of moderate means who requires the labor of at least one servant in his family. It will cause these burdens to fall upon the now untaxed live stock and "plunder" of the mountain farmer, who has little money wherewith to meet the demands of the tax-gatherer; and might we not add, many hard-working men in the East too—farmers of limited means, whose whole capital upon which they depend for the support and education of their families is their own exertions in the management of some live stock, etc., now free.

To respect the compromises of the Constitution, founded alike upon sound policy and patriotic agreement—to maintain the pledged faith of the State and the obligation of contracts between its different parts and interests—to retain within the State labor so necessary for the development of her resources, the improvement of her lands, the credit of her currency, and the progress of her commerce—to bring the burdens of taxation to bear equally, not by any iron rule, but by an intelligent regard to the interest and the circumstances of the State and her people, these, and not any clap-net issues, form the objects of the Democratic party. That the Revenue Bill of the last Legislature is perfect or near it, we do not not pretend; as we remarked on a former occasion, the tax on salaries and fees requires change—it requires to be done away with, so far as wages and incomes under a certain amount are concerned, and, indeed, the whole might well be spared. But if, instead of pulling together for practical reforms, the different sections of the State and the different interests of her people are to be arrayed against each other, we may bid farewell to any beneficial legislation for long years.

Our mercantile community ought to recollect that the *ad valorem* in their platform stick in a proviso which will enable them to discriminate in favour of the native products of the State and industrial pursuits of her citizens—convenient and plausible words of patriotic sound, but which mean in fact that under the guise of this discrimination, goods brought into our seaboard and other towns from outside of the State may be discriminated against to any extent, and the merchant tax instead of being less, as some are fooled into thinking, would actually be greater. This idea of discrimination has kicked up the biggest sort of a fuss in Virginia, and threatens to drive off her merchants to Baltimore and elsewhere.

But we have already far exceeded our accustomed length, and no doubt exhausted the patience of our readers. We will hereafter review the positions of the Eastern and Western counties in regard to population, land, taxes, etc., or we have all the materials, and will produce the figures duly tabulated.

The Charleston Convention. Prior to 1832 the machinery of Congressional caucuses was that mainly resorted to for bringing forward Presidential candidates. In 1824 that had been proved powerless to concentrate the votes of the Democratic party, and the result was something like what might be called a scrub-race, and the throwing of the election into the House, none of the candidates having received the majority of the votes of the electoral colleges.

Of the crimonations and recommitments to which that election gave rise, it is not our object now to speak.—All know that John Q. Adams was chosen by the House though far from elected by the people. In 1828 the party turned instinctively to Gen. Jackson and it required no formal nomination to mark him out as the central figure around which the party should rally—the leader under whose banner they should march to victory. Still less was any nomination required in 1832, since there were no opposing claims, and Gen. Jackson had the track by acclamation. The question was in regard to the Vice Presidency, and to decide that question a national Democratic Convention was held in Baltimore, over which body Hon. Wm. R. King, a native of Sampson county, presided. That assemblage marked the transition from the caucus to the Convention system, and it adopted the two-thirds rule—a rule which has prevailed in every Democratic Convention since, with a single exception, that which re-nominated Martin Van Buren in 1840. No Democratic candidate for the Presidency, nominated under the two-thirds rule, has ever been defeated by the opposition. The treachery of Martin Van Buren, and not the strength of the Whigs, defeated Gen. Cass.

Important and exciting as each of the seven Conventions already held may have been, and no doubt were, that about to assemble at Charleston draws to itself an interest greater in amount, and far more absorbing in character, than that attaching to any other merely political body which has ever assembled in the United States. To say that for months past the Democratic National Convention, even in prospect, has divided public attention with the Congress of the United States now in session, would be saying too little, rather than too much. The opinions, views and preferences of delegates to Charleston, have been subjected to the most rigid scrutiny, though not always stated with a full knowledge of the facts or a very careful regard to accuracy. We have been a good deal amused with the perfectly contradictory statements put forth in reference to the delegation from North Carolina.

Now that delegation, at least the eighteen members already chosen, is unpledged and uninstructed—and therefore free to act in such manner as may appear to it best, in view of all the facts of the case. North Carolina can support any good man fairly nominated upon an acceptable platform, and she can and will labor in favour of such nomination.

There are two many, too grave and too important national interests dependent upon the action of the Democratic Convention, to allow that action to be made subservient to the promotion of any merely personal ambition, or the advancement of any particular man or set of men, and we do trust that while delegates as men, may and perhaps must have their personal preferences, the representatives of all the States in Convention will agree to regard such preferences as secondary to the greater interests of the party, the maintenance of its principles and the success of its measures.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.—The Democratic Convention for the 7th district, was held at Charlotte on the 20th.—Wm. Lander, Esq., of Lincoln, and John Walker, Esq., of Mecklenburg, were elected delegates to the Charleston Convention; David Schenck, Esq., of Gaston, and H. B. Hammond, Esq., of Anson, their alternates.—Janus A. Fox, Esq., of Mecklenburg, was chosen Elector.

Bowler has said that "death often changes aversion into love." Certainly it does. We may have an anti-party to swine, and yet love pork and sausages.

Eleven Years. Our paper this week being dated on the 29th March, reminds us on that day eleven years ago, the present firm of Fulton & Price assumed control of the Journal newspaper, and the other business connected with the office.

That in those long years we may not have committed errors and been guilty of oversights, would be far too much for us to believe or hope. We are deeply conscious of our own shortcomings, and as deeply grateful for that kindness, which, spite of such shortcomings, has been uniformly extended to us, and under which our business has grown to four-fold the extent it had in 1849.

Without arrogating too much to ourselves, we may be permitted to claim the position of pioneers in many of the movements which have tended to elevate the character of the press in North Carolina. The oldest of the Daily papers in the State, the Journal can mark with pleasure the prosperity of the many others which have since been started. Without boasting of our paper or circulation, we feel conscious that the Journal has held its own, and we can rejoice in its growing circulation and influence without the slightest feeling of jealousy towards others.

The pioneers also of telegraphic news, are pleased to see that a more general spirit of enterprise has taken possession of the press of the State—that it occupies a better and more independent position than at any former period. We have marked the great improvement which our State papers have exhibited of late years, and have derived pleasure from the reflection that we may have had some influence, however little, in giving an impetus to this improvement.

For ourselves we are happy to say that our prospects are more encouraging than ever. Our subscription, both daily and weekly is larger than at any former time, and is growing more rapidly. So also is the general business of our office, and we are better prepared to meet the requirements of our customers. We have erected on Princess Street, between Front and Second, a building designed and fitted up expressly for our business, and certainly inferior to none in the Southern States. Our machinery and materials are in perfect order and efficiency, and we have just received an invoice of a large amount of new types now on their way. We are determined to have an establishment perfect in every respect.

The basement of our building is occupied by Mr. P. Heinsberger, book-binder, by whom ruling, binding, &c., are done promptly. The great public convenience of having a bindery here, first induced us to bring out the necessary materials, and to employ Mr. Heinsberger. Subsequently we disposed of the bindery to Mr. H. who carries it on himself, doing his work well and promptly and deserving patronage and encouragement.

The first door on the West of the principal story, Journal Building, leads up to the Journal printing office, and business and editorial rooms. The office next East of the entrance to the Journal office is occupied by Dr. A. Small, Dentist, who has fitted it up with every necessary convenience for the practice of his profession.—Dr. Small is a graduate of the Dental College, Baltimore.

The centre office is occupied by our clever young friend, T. W. Brown, Jr., Esq., Attorney at Law—told on the East, by H. L. Holmes, Esq., one of our oldest and most respected lawyers.

Thus we have law, dentistry, book-binding, printing and newspaper business all in one building.

In eleven more years, who knows what may not have happened.

## Duplin Superior Court.

The spring term of the Superior Court for Duplin county is held this week at Kenansville, His Honor Judge Howard, presiding.

Duplin is the first court of the circuit, and on Monday Judge Howard entered upon the discharge of his judicial duties. Though young in years and appearance, the Judge presides with dignity, and pushes forward business with as much despatch as a due regard for the impartial administration of justice will permit. His charge to the Grand Jury was lengthy and precise, as well as able. All with whom our Associate conversed were favorably impressed by the new Judge, and believe that he will make an excellent officer. We understand that there is no case of public importance to come before the Court at its present term.

By the way, our Associate came across a highly respectable family of four children—all boys—the oldest being about 21, whose combined length of twenty-five feet three inches, we think would be hard to beat. Their respective heights are 6 feet 7 inches, 6 feet 6 inches, 6 feet 2 inches, and 6 feet. How much they may yet grow is difficult to say, as even the oldest has hardly yet got his growth. A foot or so more may still be added to their aggregate height.

It is almost unnecessary to say that the Journal is more and more sought after, the older it grows. We thank the people of Duplin for their kind support and flattering appreciation.

DIRECT FROM PORTO RICO, W. I.—We notice the arrival here of the Schooner A. S. Ellis, direct from Mayaguez, Porto Rico, to Messrs. Hathaway & Co., with 154 bbls. prime and choice Porto Rico Sugar. This is the first cargo direct from Porto Rico for years and we trust it may be regarded as the opening or rather re-opening of a valuable trade.

A TREAT IN STORE.—Messrs. Bissett & Birchett, of this city, the contractors for the branch of the Wilmington Railroad to Tarboro', and all of their employees, have a rich treat in store, we learn, from the citizens of Tarboro' on the 4th of July next. It is expected that the branch will be completed by that time, and on that day the one hundredth anniversary of the town of Tarboro' will transpire. It will be a glorious day for the thrifty and energetic population of that growing little borough, and one which is worthy of all honor, as well in view of its distinct events as in the double significance it will bear to the citizens, as both a local and a national holiday. The above named gentlemen and their employees, we are told, will be invited to a grand barbecue, furnished by the citizens, and in the richest and most liberal manner. The ovation will reflect credit upon the citizens of Tarboro', and will doubtless be long and justly remembered by the associations and reminiscences it will kindle in the hearts of its participants.

## Petersburg Express.

A slave boy named Barras was arrested in New Orleans on the 28th ult., charged with having disposed of \$3,000 of his master's money without authority. The master, who was an old Frenchman, refused to allow the boy to be flogged, claiming that he was "too smart," and that he had done his business for him for thirty years.

GOOD APPOINTMENT.—We learn from the Hillsboro' Recorder that Thos. Ruffin, Jr., Esq., the Solicitor for the Fourth Judicial Circuit, having resigned his office in consequence of ill health, Judge Bailey has appointed Thos. Settle, Esq., of Rockingham, to fill the vacancy.

No better appointment could have been made. Mr. Settle is one of the few young men of his age who merits the honors conferred.

We learn also, that a Special Term of the Court, for one week, was ordered to be held for Orange, to commence on the second Monday in June next, for the trial of cases on the civil docket.—Raleigh Press.

BURIED ALIVE.—Within a few months past, says the Albany (N. Y.) Knickerbocker, necessity has demanded that the German Lutheran Burial Ground, on the Bowery, should be stripped of its sacred rites as a sepulchre of the dead, and improved with dwellings for the living. Last week, while engaged in removing the coffins, the men came across one containing the body of a man named Wertz, who died and was buried some eighteen months since. From some cause or other, persons present, whether friends of the deceased or not we cannot say, were prompted to open the coffin. When they did so, imagine their surprise on beholding the body face downward, and the fingers of the man grasped in his hair. From this it is evident that Mr. Wertz had been buried alive, and in his agonies of distress, on becoming conscious of his entombment, had worked himself into the position above described.

## BY TELEGRAPH.

## CONGRES.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 28, 1860. Yesterday, the Senate discussed the bill for an increase in the pay of the Navy.

The House debated the Army bill.

LATER FROM EUROPE. PORTLAND, March 28th, 1860. The Steamship Bohemian arrived here yesterday, with Liverpool telegraphic dates via Queenstown to the 15th inst.

Cotton was dull and the lower grades had declined, but the market for the better grades was generally without change.

Provisions were steady.

Consols closed at 94½ a 95.

The latest advices report that Sardinia had agreed by special treaty to cede Savoy to France.

Advices from Turin say that the Sardinian Army had been ordered to be placed on a war footing.

The Moors had attacked the Spanish encampments, but were repulsed with great loss.

LATER FROM THE RIO GRANDE. NEW ORLEANS, March 28th, 1860.

Brownsville, Texas, dates to the 3rd inst. have been received here. Four companies of American troops had crossed the river above Brownsville and took thirty prisoners—supposed to be a portion of Cortina's band. The Americans have found an encampment on the Mexican side, where six companies were stationed at last accounts.

## Explosion.

PHILADELPHIA, March 27th, 1860.

An explosion occurred in a coal mine near Hyde Park on yesterday, killing 15 or 20 persons, and wounding many others.

New York Markets. NEW YORK, March 28, 1860.

[At the close yesterday.]

Cotton dull. There is little enquiry and prices weak. Flour is declining; Wheat has a declining tendency and is nominal. Corn is firm at 70 a 78½c. Spirits Turpentine dull at 46½c. Rosin dull but prices unchanged. Rice 3½ a 4½ cents per lb.

FROM WASHINGTON.—Washington, March 26th.—The President was engaged with the Secretary of State for several hours to-day on business connected with Mexican affairs. The recent events in the Gulf occasion much solicitude in official quarters, as it is feared they may complicate us with foreign powers having large interests in that country. Nothing materially different from the newspaper accounts reached this government. The House has been officially informed that the President has signed the bill for the protection of emigrant female passengers.

Mr. Draper, a representative of the New England strikers, is to lecture here on Thursday.

DEATH OF HON. FRANCIS MALLERY.—Norfolk, March 26.—Hon. Francis Mallery, formerly a member of Congress from this district, died here this morning.

UNFOUNDED RUMOR.—New York, March 26.—The rumor that A. L. Stewart had become insane, is unfounded.

ACQUITTAL OF CAPT. WITCHER AND OTHERS.—Lynchburg, Va., March 25.—Capt. Vincent Witcher, Addison Witcher, J. A. Smith, and Samuel Swanson, tried for killing the Messrs. Clements, in Franklin county, Va., were acquitted on Friday last.

Meeting of the Democratic National Committee. WASHINGTON, March 25.—A call has been